

Sacramento County Disability Advisory Commission (DAC)

Meeting Minutes for November 2, 2021

Members Present:, Gene Lozano, Chair; Randy Hicks, Vice Chair; Patty Gainer, Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Carol Moss, LaTasha Richardson, Kathy Sachen, Doug Sloan, Ex-Officio; Angela Talent, Gwen Wilson.

Members Absent: Bill Fallai, Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; Leighann Moffitt, Ex-Officio; Reggie Nelson.

Guests: Department of General Services Representatives: Brian McKenzie, Facilities Manager; Greg Nowakowski, Chief, Facilities Planning & Management Division; Jeff Tardaguila, Physical Access Subcommittee Member; Reggie Baptiste, Community Member.

Staff: Cori Stillson, Cheryl Bennett, Disability Compliance Office (DCO).

Call to Order and Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order with a quorum present. Staff took roll call of members and guests introduced themselves.

Approval of the Minutes

The meeting minutes for October 5, 2021 were approved as submitted..

Public Comments

Jeff Tardaguila spoke about the planned train station in Midtown Sacramento.

Capital Improvement Plan and Funding Access Improvements

Brian McKenzie and Greg Nowakowski explained the Capital Improvement Plan and how it is used to fund access improvements. The Department of General Services (DGS) keeps a line item in its annual budget for ADA improvements. DGS has spent \$6.8 million to date on over 200 dedicated access projects. It was noted that ADA upgrades to staff only areas come from a different funding source. The connection between removal of access barriers and reasonable accommodation for employees was discussed. DAC members made recommendations for providing staff training and procedure documents to strengthen the connection between employee reasonable accommodation requests and barrier removal in facilities.

Chair's Report

Gene Lozano commented on the draft Active Transportation Plan which is open for comments through November 14. He expressed concerns about the heavy use of shared bike-pedestrian facilities and the proposed use of Class IV Bicycle Lanes which create barriers for transit users. He also noted lack of accessibility in the public input process with the use of online maps and images that are inaccessible for people who use screen reading software. Mr. Lozano asked members for confirmation of their availability over the holiday season for the December 7 and January 4 meetings. There were no conflicts, so the meetings will proceed as scheduled.

Ex-Officio Reports

Jeff Gasaway and Doug Sloan deferred their reports.

Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report

Cori Stillson announced the selection of the new Director for the Department of Personnel Services, Dr. Sylvester Fadal. Cheryl Bennett summarized a recent emergency preparedness table top exercise where a massive local flooding event and evacuation effort was simulated.

Annual Report Task Force Report

Gene Lozano reported that the Task Force will meet again on November 29 to review the finalized DAC and Subcommittee Activities and Accomplishments.

Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report

Carol Moss stated the Subcommittee will finalize their accomplishments document and work plan for the coming year at the next meeting.

Human Services Coordinating Council Report (HSCC)

Randy Hicks reported the Council is working through the budget recommendations and is planning for its annual Heroes of Human Service awards.

Physical Access Subcommittee Report

Gene Lozano announced the retirement of the Subcommittee's long time liaison from the Department of Transportation (DOT), Mr. Bill Irving. Mr. Irving has been a dedicated partner in achieving access improvements for Sacramento County pedestrians and his efforts and talents are greatly appreciated. The new liaison is Ms. Mikki McDaniel, who has already worked with the Subcommittee on the Active Transportation Plan and other transportation projects. Mr. Irving gave his final quarterly DOT report and Doug Maas presented information about alternative traffic control devices, with emphasis on the HAWK signal currently being evaluated on Auburn Blvd. near Annadale Way.

Unfinished/New Business, Announcements

There was no Unfinished or New Business. Members made announcements regarding events of interest to the disability community.

Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda

The County Registrar of Voters, Ms. Courtney Bailey-Kanelos, will be invited for an update from the last election.

Adjournment

It was moved (Gainer) and seconded (Hicks) to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously.